

A Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year to all our members



The “Biesbosch’ is a National Park that borders the provinces of Brabant and South Holland. This is not only a large recreational area of 300 km², which is famous for its bird life, but also a fresh water reservoir used for drinking water by nearby cities. More on this National Park on pages 20 & 21.

Important: The entries below are an indication only of what events are planned during the coming months and the information given may not always be accurate and could be subject to change.
For up-to-date accurate information, **always** refer to the larger function advertisements inside this paper or the posters displayed in the clubhouse.

Upcoming Functions in Neerlandia and other Venues as shown:

Saturday 5 Dec	<u>"Private St Nicholas Function"</u>	
Sunday 6 Dec	<u>"St Nicholas for the Children"</u>	1.00 pm
	Cost: \$ 8.00 per person	
	Children's Entertainment by:	
	Kit Bergen, Ventriloquist	
Thursday 10 Dec	<u>"The "DJVV" Meeting"</u>	Shop Open.
Saturday 12 Dec	<u>"DACWA Christmas Lunch"</u>	
	(By invitation only)	
Sunday 20 Dec	<u>"Christmas Carols"</u>	2.00 pm
	Starring: <u>"The Dutch Singers"</u>	
	Cost: \$ 8.00	
Sunday 3 Jan 2010	<u>"New Year's Celebration"</u>	10.30 pm
	Cost: \$12.00 p.p.	
	DVD show—Light Lunch included	
	More details inside this magazine	
CLUBHOUSE CLOSED		
Wednesday 20 Jan	<u>"Clubhouse activities"</u>	resume with the Wednesday Card Club starting up again.
Sunday 7 Feb	<u>"Sunday Card Drive"</u>	10.00 am
	Cost: \$ 6.00	
Sunday 21 Feb	<u>"DVD Afternoon/Sausage Sizzle"</u>	10.00 am
	Cost: "Gold Coin" Donation	
Saturday 6 Mar	<u>"Carnaval Ball"</u>	8.00 pm
Sunday 7 Mar	<u>"Sunday Card Drive"</u>	10.00 am
	Cost: \$ 6.00	
Sunday 14 Mar	<u>"Sunday Brunch"</u>	10.00 am
	Cost: \$12.00	
	Children \$ 6.00	
Sun 21 Mar	<u>"Swiss Club AGM"</u>	

Clubhouse Address:

230 Cambridge Street,
Wembley WA 6014
ABN: 33 211 869 383

Postal Address:

P. O. Box 200,
Wembley, W. A. 6913

Clubhouse Contact:

Tel: (08) 9381 3738

Fax: (08) 9388 0848

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Webpage:

www.dutchcommunity.iinet.net.au

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Private Members Parties:

For bookings of Private Members Parties or information that is not in this magazine, please phone:
Pieter Leeftang on: 9364 6703 or Ray Schaafsma on: 9455 4835
Costs for using the Clubhouse facilities are:

Use of Hall only	\$275.00 (Incl. GST)
Use of Lounge only	\$100.00 (Incl. GST)
Use of Kitchen	\$100.00 (Incl. GST)

Dear Members,

One should never tempt fate. Last month I stated that my general health has stood up very well lately.

The printer's ink had not even dried and I got this shocking flue that knocked me for six for about 3 weeks. But that is behind me now and I am my old self again.



Prinsen Ball:

The Sandgropers Prinsen Ball was a great success as far as Neerlandia is concerned. Not only because there was a full house and consequently the bar and kitchen did good business, but Neerlandia's Life and Committee Member Bram Buying was inaugurated as: "Prins Carnaval, Bram the 1st".

Congratulations Bram!!

A report on the Prinsen Ball and pictures of Bram can be found on pages 6 & 7 of this magazine.

An very interesting statistic came to hand. Did you know that in the last decade the Sandgropers have bestowed the honour of Prince Carnaval on 4 people from Rotterdam. A great choice. However, this begs the following questions. Are suitable Limburgers and Brabanders in such short supply in Perth?

The Sandgropers will hold their next Carnaval Ball on Saturday the 6th of March 2010 and bookings will already be taken by Henny Crijns.

Neerlandia Membership:

It is that time of the year again. On the 1st of January the 2010 Membership fees are due again. The membership will be pleased to read that the membership fees will not be increased for 2010 and will remain the same as they have been for the last 5 years.

As there will not be a January issue of the Neerlandia magazine, we have enclosed a lift-out "Renewal Form" inside this magazine for your use.

As the membership registration will now be done by "Margaret Baltes," there could possibly be a slight delay in sending out your membership cards until such time that she is fully familiar with the system and that from our side we have set up an effective communication system with her.

We also ask our members to take advantage of the opportunity to pay by credit or debit card, now that we have those facilities available.

Donation from the Dutch Singers:

The Dutch Singers have made a very nice donation to the Dutch Society Neerlandia in honour of our 40th Anniversary. I would like to thank them for this generous gesture and the funds will go towards purchasing a new dishwasher for the kitchen.

Upcoming Events:

Sun. 6 Dec. St Nicholas Day for the Children-Cost \$8.00 pp.

This very popular event should once again be booked out early.

Sun. 20 Dec. Christmas Carols-Cost \$8.00

This Dutch Singers' Showpiece does not need any advertising and we should have a full house once again.

Sun. Jan 3. New Year's Celebration-Cost \$12.00

This event was one of our great innovations last year. Did you miss out? Then you must come this year but book early as seats are limited due to the extra room required to show DVD's.

Sun.21 February. Sausage Sizzle & DVD Show.
Cost- \$2.00 per person.

Sun 14 Mar. Sunday Brunch.

Season's Best Wishes:

I will conclude my writings for this year by wishing all Neerlandia Members a very Merry Christmas and Good Health and Happiness for the year 2010.

Pieter Leeftang,
your President



Congratulations!!!!
The following
new members
joined the Dutch
Society Neerlandia

Tony van Merwyk
Tony de Grijs
Regine Rohmann
Mrs. P. Te

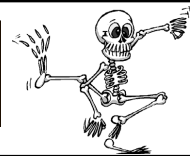


GET WELL SOON:

To those members who are not feeling too well, who are ill, injured or who are battling a severe illness, the Neerlandia Committee wish you all the very best and above all, a full and speedy recovery.



What a crazy world



Grandma's Birth Control Pills

A doctor that had been seeing an 80-year-old woman for most of her life finally retired.

At her next checkup, the new doctor told her to bring a list of all the medicines that had been prescribed for her. As the young doctor was looking through these, his eyes grew wide as he realized she had a prescription for birth control pills.

"Mrs. Smith, do you realize these are BIRTH CONTROL pills?"

"Yes, they help me sleep at night."

"Mrs. Smith, I assure you there is absolutely NOTHING in these that could possibly help you sleep!"

She reached out and patted the young Doctor's knee.

"Yes, dear, I know that. But every morning, I grind one up and mix it in the glass of orange juice that my 16 year old granddaughter drinks. And believe me, it helps me sleep at night."

You gotta love Grandmas!

THE WEDDING NIGHT:

Fred and Mary get married but couldn't afford a honeymoon, so they go back to Fred's Mom and Dad's house for their first night together.

In the morning, Johnny, Fred's little brother gets up and has his breakfast.

As he is going out of the door to go to school, he asks his mom if Fred and Mary are up yet.

She replies, 'No'.

Johnny asks, 'Do you know what I think?'

His mom replies, 'I don't want to hear what you think! Just go to school.'

Johnny comes home for lunch and asks his mom, 'Are Fred and Mary up yet?'

She replies, 'No.'

Johnny says, 'Do you know what I think?'

His mom replies, 'Never mind what you think!

Eat your lunch and go back to school.'

After school, Johnny comes home and asks again, 'Are Fred and Mary up yet?'

His mom says, 'No.'

He asks, 'Do you know what I think?'

His mom replies, 'Ok, now tell me what you think?'

He says: 'Last night Fred came to my room for the Vaseline and I think...

I gave him my airplane glue.'

* * * * *

Quick Thinking:

A man boarded a plane with 6 kids. After they got settled in their seats a woman sitting across the aisle from him leaned over to him and asked, "Are all of those kids yours?"

He replied, "No. I work for a condom company. These are customer complaints.

* * * * *

Chinese Surprise:

A couple go for a meal at a Chinese restaurant and order the 'Chicken Surprise'. The waiter brings the meal, served in a lidded cast iron pot.

Just as the wife is about to serve herself, the lid of the pot rises slightly and she briefly sees two beady little eyes looking around before the lid slams back down.

'Good grief, did you see that?' she asks her husband. He hasn't, so she asks him to look in the pot. He reaches for it and again the lid rises, and he sees two little eyes looking around before it slams down.

Rather perturbed, he calls the waiter over, explains what is happening, and demands an explanation.

'Please sir,' says the waiter, 'what you order?'

The husband replies, 'Chicken Surprise

'Ah! So sorry,' says the waiter,

.....

'I bring you Peeking Duck!'

Sunday Klaverjas Drives

**De eerste Klaverjas
Drives van 2010
worden gehouden op
Zondag 7 Februari en
Zondag 7 Maart.**



Kosten: Maar \$6.00 per persoon.

Kom gezellig Klaverjassen voor leuke prijzen in het Neerlandia Clubhuis.

Lunch & Koffie zijn bij de toegangsprijs inbegrepen.



Aanvang 11.00 uur precies.

Klaverjassers en Jokeren spelers zijn van harte welkom.

DUTCH IMPORTED LIQUOR

INMAAK BRANDEWIJN	\$49.00	PER LITER
OUDE JENEVER	\$49.00	PER LITER
JONGE JENEVER	\$49.00	PER LITER
CITROEN JENEVER	\$49.00	PER LITER
BEERENBURG	\$49.00	PER LITER
BESSEN JENEVER	\$39.00	PER LITER
CITROEN BRANDEWIJN	\$39.00	PER LITER
KERSEN BRANDEWIJN	\$39.00	PER LITER
DIKKE ADVOCAT	\$29.00	per 700ml

AVAILABLE WHEN THE BAR IS OPEN:

DJVV 2nd Thursdays: 10.00 am—2.00 pm

Thursdays Evenings: 7.00 pm—10.30 pm

Organised Functions: See page 2

PRE-ORDERED BOTTLES CAN ALSO BE COLLECTED WHEN THE SHOP IS OPEN

Every 2nd Tuesday from 10.00 am—12 noon

Every Wednesday from 11.00 am—1.00 pm



**BOTTLES ALSO AVAILABLE
EVERY FRIDAY
from 10.00 am—1.00 pm**

But phone 9381 3738 first on
Fridays before coming out.

Saint Nicholas**Day for the Children****On Sunday the 6th of December**

Saint Nicholas and his "Zwarte Pieten" will visit the Neerlandia Clubhouse to ensure everyone will have a good time. For the Children we will have an Icecream, a bag of Lollies and a Drink.

Kit Bergen, a Ventriloquist will provide the entertainment for the children and we will also announce the winners of the colouring-in competition.

**For the grown-ups there
will be
Coffee/Tea and
"Appeltaart".**

**Only one present per child
to be handed in at the door.
(Value not over \$15.00)**

Event: Children's St. Nicholas Day
Date: Sunday 6 December
Time: 1.00 pm (doors open at noon)
Cost: \$8.00 p.p. for young and old

Strictly pre-paid bookings only:

Contact: Ans van Alphen on
9342 6525 (9.00 am-9.00 pm)

Credit or Debit Card payments by telephone
are accepted

THE NEW 'PRINS CARNAVAL' SURPRISED THEM ALL AT NEERLANDIA



On Saturday the 7th November 2009 The Carnivals Club "The Sandgropers" Inc once again held their annual 'Prinsen Bal' at the Neerlandia Clubhouse in Wembley.

It was a very exciting and surprising event as for a couple of years, apart from the big celebrations in September of last year, the Carnival functions had been a bit on the quiet side.

On this particular occasion the hall was filled almost to capacity and the tables, walls and ceiling were beautifully decorated in true Carnival style.

The guests came looking for a good time and to see who would be the new Prins Carnaval.

As is the norm the 'old' Prins was 'dethroned' and left by way of 'losing his head'. This act was well executed by Ex Prins Theo 4th who's theme was 'magic' and had many guests laughing. Theo Wieman had been Prins Carnaval for the last 2 years, this is not the norm as a Prins generally holds the 'throne' for 12 months—thanks to Theo for doing a good job in a time of need.

After a short interval the Sandgropers 'Raad van Elf' marched into the hall preceding a lovely little cart made into the style of a tradesman's van, on this occasion an electricians van. This was pulled in by the Carnival Clubs Guards and escorted by the Jester, Junior Sandgroper and 4 female apprentices to the 'electrician' all dressed in white overalls with the logos saying 'Sandgroper Sparkies', 'Put a spark in your life' and 'Kiss an Electrician', etcetera. The beautiful cart made a couple of laps of the hall with much applause.

At last the Vorst Harry Crijns walked up to the cart, opened the door and out stepped the new Prins Carnaval—Prins Bram 1st (Buying). What an excitement in the hall as Bram was extremely well



known to most of the guests and in particular to the Neerlandia membership; having put so much of his time in volunteer work in and around the club for years and years—you would have to say he was a permanent fixture. The ladies came onto the floor to hug and kiss him (which of course he liked very much).

Prins Bram 1st was very excited himself as he made his way around the floor to shake as many hands as he could and then strode to the front of the stage to take his rightful place on the throne of Prins Carnaval.

He was presented with his royal cape, his



Hatmaker extraordinaire, Henny Crijns, presents Bram with his Prinsen hat and is rewarded with a Royal Kiss.

chain of office, his mighty sceptre and of course his very own Prinsen hat which was in the colours of red and purple—very royal colours indeed.

After all the formalities Prins Bram 1st

invited his daughter Yvonne to come forward and the two proceeded to do the Prinsen Dance having chosen a waltz.

Pretty soon many more Sandgropers and guests took to the floor and joined the new Prins and his daughter who, by the way, was very proud and occasionally emotional for her dad to be given such an honour.

Prins Bram 1st presented everyone in the hall with his medal which was in the form of a key ring—very useful and very cleverly done. He enjoyed this 'royal act' very much giving him the opportunity to meet as many of the guests as possible and hugging all the ladies he could.

The Sandgropers look forward to a good year with their new Prins Bram 1st at their helm; they believe that the honour



The President of Neerlandia presents the Golden Key of the Neerlandia Clubhouse to Prins Bram the 1st.

bestowed on Bram was indeed the right thing to do and it couldn't have gone to a better or more deserving person. This sentiment was also carried by many of the guests on the evening, many of whom were Neerlandia members and who knew Bram Buying very well.

The next Carnival event will be the Prins' own Carnaval Bal which will be held once again at Neerlandia on Saturday the 6th March 2010. Prins Bram 1st invites you all to come along and join with him on this special occasion and asks that you dress up in costume as there will be prizes for the best man, best woman & best couple. It is hoped that it will once again be a successful and well attended Carnival event. Some changes will occur and advertising will be out as soon as possible.

Hope to see you there.

Henny Crijns...





At the Sandgroper's Prinsen Ball our Life and Committee Member Bram was crowned "Prins Bram the 1st." Bram could not stop smiling and is seen here pictured with his daughter Yvonne.

DE NEERLANDIA WINKEL

Allerlei lekkernijen voor Sinterklaas en Kerstmis.



- *Chocolade Letters (melk en puur)*
- *Borstplaat en Fondant*
- *Marsepein Fruit en Marsepein Bars*
- *Kerststaven (gemaakt in Perth)*
- *Weihnacht Stollen met Amandelpers.*
- *Speculaas Poppen en Speculaas Brokken*
- *Kinder Taai Taai en Poppen*
- *Kruidnoten (Pepernoten)*
- *Oliebollen Beslag uit Nederland*

De Neerlandia Winkel is open op de volgende dagen:

Elke Woensdag	van 10.00 am - 1.00 pm
Dinsdag (non - DJVV week)	van 11.00 am - noon
Donderdags (DJVV week - see page 2)	van 11.00 am - 2.00 pm
Elke Donderdag avond	van 10.00 pm - 11.00 pm
Iedere Vrijdag	van 10.00 am-1.00 pm, maar bel eerst even. Tel: 9381 3738



De Neerlandia winkel is bemand door vrijwilligers en daarom moeten de bovenstaande tijden een beetje ruim genomen worden

Sausage Sizzle & DVD Afternoon

On Sunday the 21st of February we will hold a Sausage Sizzle in our clubhouse. Cost: \$2.00 donation.

Your entry ticket will entitle you to 2 sausages, a bun and some fried onions.

The Kitchen will be open for Coffee & Dutch "Appeltaart" and snacks at the standard price.

We will show a few Dutch DVD's.

(For more details please see our February magazine)



For Catering Purposes please book your seat
by contacting Ans van Alphen on
9342 6525 (9.00 am-9.00 pm)



The Carnivals Club 'The Sandgropers'



Our Prins Bram 1st invites you to his very special



'Carnaval Bal'

*Floorshows for your
enjoyment*



Date: Saturday 6th March 2010
Venue: Dutch Club Neerlandia
230 Cambridge St WEMBLEY
Time: Doors open at 7.00 pm
Entertainment begins at 8 pm

Bookings: Henny 94546879.

Tickets are \$12 per person.

Don't forget to ask for your favourite table.

Answering machine avail.

Pls leave name & number.

Music:

Back for Carnival
Popular "Gerry v. Sambeck"
formerly of Take 2.

Plus:

DJ fill-ins.

Carnaval Music for
the entire evening.

The kitchen open:

All your favourite

Dutch snacks & more
available.

Bar open:

All your favourite

Dutch Drinks & more

available.



Upcoming event in December & a Birthday Party

Christmas Carols



The Dutch Singers resplendent in their Christmas Uniform.

Presented by "The Dutch Singers"

DATE: Sunday 20 December

Venue: Neerlandia Clubhouse

Cost: \$8.00 per person.

Refreshments: The Admission price includes Coffee/Tea & "Banket Staaf".

Time: Start at 2.00 pm

Please come and join the Dutch Singers with their famous repertoire of Dutch, English and International Christmas Carols

**Pre-paid tickets
only from:**

Ans van Alphen

**Tel: 9342 6525 (9.00
am—9.00 pm)**

**as well as from the:
"The Dutch Singers"**

Wilma Kersten's 90th Birthday Party: (Also read her Life History on page 10).



*Wilma (centre) with her daughters
Petra & Willy.*



*Wilma and grandson showing off a
bouquet full of \$20.00 bills, a present
from the Dutch Singers.*

On Sunday the 8th of November Wilma Kersten celebrated her 90th birthday in the Neerlandia Clubhouse with family & friends.

The hall looked a picture the way the seating was arranged and the Neerlandia Kitchen volunteers prepared a Sunday Brunch and provided the usual excellent service.

Wilma, who has been a member of the Dutch Singers for many years, had also invited all of them and they entertained the family with many songs and sketches.

A fitting celebration for a tremendous person.

Pieter Leeftang



**The seating was arranged in such a way
to highlight the entertainment.**



Wilma Kersten's Life Story.



Wilma was born in the Netherlands in a small town called Weurt in 1919. Weurt is near the river Waal in the municipality of Beuningen.

Of course she does not remember too much of her childhood other than that they often moved. Wilma went to school until she was 13 years old and as her mother was a widow, Wilma had to find a job to boost the family income.

Her life started to become interesting then, she made lots of friends and it was good to be away from home.

Her aunty introduced her to a choir as, at that young age, she already liked to sing. She had a good time with her friends and married one of them. She became mother of a little boy and when the baby was 3 months old, her husband had to go to work in Germany. This of course was a very hard time but she survived the 5 years of war realizing she was not the only one.

After the war life picked up again and Wilma had two more children; two beautiful daughters. Then with her young family she moved to Helmond. Life was not easy and the young couple decided to migrate to Australia.

On arrival they lived for 6 weeks in Bonegilla camp, soon her husband went to Canberra for a job and Wilma went to Bendigo. Her husband then came back and they both found jobs with Shell and Mobil refinery. Here again they made lots of friends and had a good time and of course, she found another choir to join. This time a cathedral choir.

Then they were on the move again as her husband got a job near Melbourne. There they also moved a few times; even lived in a horse stable in the early days.

After 5 years there they were finally able to get a house in Broadmeadows where they stayed for a few years and made more friends of course.

From there they had to move to Adelaide for her husband's job. Unfortunately that is where he died.

Wilma then worked in a Motel on the beach and while there, she was able to travel back to the Netherlands a few times.

After 10 years in Adelaide, Wilma had had enough and wanted a change of scenery, deciding to leave Australia for a while.

Her son accompanied her and they ended up staying in the Netherlands. Wilma married again but a while later, her husband died.

She started work again, working in a canteen of a Paper making factory.

She stayed there until her retirement. However they must have liked her and would not let her retire, so she stayed on for another few years and then retired again.

During that time some of her family decided to walk the '4 Daagse' for a lark!

That consists of walking between 30km to 50km per day depending on your age.

Well it was great fun: they made the finish line without too many blisters and just a little bit of muscle ache but that was soon forgotten.

They walked the '4 Daagse' 11 times, quite an achievement.

It was a great experience and she can look back at that time with a smile and a lot of happy memories.

Her daughters decided to visit Australia for a holiday, with Mum, and then decided that they should take her back to Oz to live.

Wilma says that is how she reached her 90th birthday, with still more friends and of course another choir. She has been with The Dutch Singers, as a soprano, for more than 8 years now.

The Dutch Singers had a lot of fun, with her family & friends, singing different songs about her life at her birthday celebration in the Neerlandia Club.

Wilma's wish is to be with all of us for at least another 10 happy fun filled years.

She says "Forget all your troubles and the other not so nice things that happened along the way; carry on and make something of your life".

New Year's Celebration

HAPPY NEW YEAR

HAPPY NEW YEAR



On Sunday the 3rd of January
Neerlandia will celebrate the new year 2010
with a **Special Luncheon and DVD Show.**

***When: Sunday the
3rd of January
2010***

***Time: Doors open
at 10.30***

***Cost: A \$12.00
donation per person
to cover the cost of
the Lunch.***

***10.30– 11.00. On arrival Coffee or
Tea with “Appelflappen”***

11.00-12.00: Musical DVD Show

***12.00-12.45 Lunch, which will be a
“Broodje Croquet, Chips & Salad”***

***12.45-2.45 Another Musical DVD
Show***

***2.45 onwards. Nibbles, Cheese &
Rookworst Platters on the tables.***

Bar Open. CD Music.

Maybe a little Dancing

**For Catering Purposes please
book and pre-pay your seat or
table.**

Please contact:

**Ans van Alphen on
9342 6525 (9.00 am-9.00 pm)**



Biljard Club Hollandia Annual Barbeque:



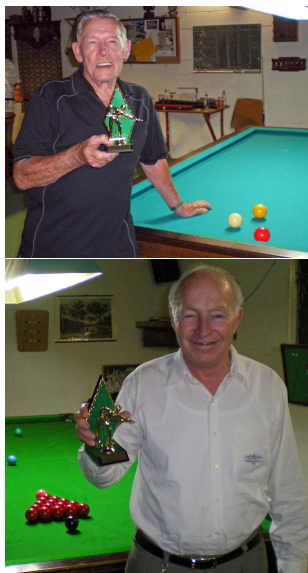
On Sunday late afternoon on the 15th of November the Hollandia Biljard Club held its Annual Barbeque at their Clubhouse in Wattle Grove.

The Biljard & Snooker players had brought their partners and some friends along on this balmy evening and a total of 35 people were present.

Henk and Gerda Arts had spend some time earlier that day to assist Marius van Moorsel with setting up and preparing the hall.

The early part of the event was spent just playing a few games of biljards, snooker, some people played card games and others just socialised until it was time to light up the barbeque and put Ad Liebrechts to work to start the cooking process.

He was ably supported by Jan Meyer, who fried the onions and apples and others who already had cut up the onions and buttered the bread. After all the hunger pains were stilled it was time to present a couple of annual trophies to the winners, Jan Meyer and Aat van Noort. Some thank-you's were given to Henk Arts, who had made new top covers for the billiard tables and Ray Schaafsma, who with assistance from a couple of others had replaced the felt on all the tables. Well done all of you.



Meanwhile Jan Bruyninckx had organised the raffle, which is always held in order to cover some or all of the costs.

All the members had been asked to bring along some raffle prizes and they did not disappoint. There were at least 50 of most beautiful prizes to be won and as a



result the raffle was an outstanding success, despite having only 35 people present. All to soon it was time to

pack up and go home again, but only after a bit of cleaning up was done.

All in all a very successful event held on a balmy evening.

Pieter Leeftang.

* * * * *

De Jeugd van Vroeger (DJVV):

Alles gaat goed met de Jeugd Van Vroeger, hoewel het aantal leden de laatste tijd iets achteruit gaat.

Verscheide leden zitten nu in een tehuis en hebben moeite om regelmatig naar de club te komen.

Wij hebben ook enorm veel leden die al over de negentig jaar oud zijn, maar die zijn nog steeds fit genoeg om om de veertien dagen naar de club te komen. Onlangs vierde ook Wilma Kersten haar 90ste verjaardag, gefeliciteerd Wilma.

Pas geleden hadden wij 12 gasten op onze bijeenkomst en dat was erg leuk. Drie vrouwen, dochters van Jack en Fred Zuideveld, bekende voetballers van vroeger van de Windmills, waren uit Nederland gekomen om enige oud-Windmill spelers te ontmoeten. Tony van Meerwijk, Jan Koelen, Frans Verharen en Piet Leeftang waren van de partij.

Op de 26ste November vieren wij Sinterklaas en iedereen krijgt een pakketje mee naar huis.

Ons Kerstdiner word gehouden op 10 December en dat is tevens ook de laatste bijeenkomst van het jaar.

In 2010 beginnen wij weer op Donderdag 4 February. Wij wensen iedereen een goede Kerst en een Gelukkig en Gezond Nieuwjaar. Tot 4 januari.

An Hotz, secretary.



December 2009

DUTCH AGED CARE NEWSLETTER

The Official Publication of Dutch Aged Care Western Australia Inc.
To all members and supporters of DACWA

DACWA NEWS & VIEWS

I don't know how it happened, but 2009 is almost over. Feels like it's just begun. To all the readers of this quarterly compilation of news, trivia, etc. (all five of you!)- all the very best for a merry Christmas and a safe and healthy 2010 and may the financial situation quickly revert back to what it was a few years ago!!!

Our AGM was held on 29 September. At the notice of motion it was moved and seconded that a change in the Constitution now sees DACWA supervised by a Board rather than a Committee. This change in the constitution has been submitted to the Department of Commerce, as required by law.

Another exciting development during the AGM was the election of Mr Ray Halligan as new Board member. Ray, a recently retired MP for Multicultural Affairs, will apply his Parliamentary experience to the benefit of DACWA's further development. The Board is welcoming Mr Halligan and is looking forward to working together with him.

No other Board members were nominated or elected with the Chairman's position still vacant. Henry Koldenhoven was re-elected as Vice Chairman, unopposed, as was the Secretary, John Keemink. All reports presented during the AGM are available for your information at www.dacwa.org.

The recent Quiz day was well attended, with 10 tables comprising approx 50 people and by all accounts, was enjoyed by all those who attended. It was pleasing to see 2 tables from the Rhine Donau Club - hopefully we will continue to attract members from there and also other associated Clubs. Would have been nice to have had some of our own support workers and volunteers attend. Perhaps next time ????? The winning table (of only four people) were presented 6 vouchers for lunch at Parliament House, courtesy of Liz Behjat the member for the North Metropolitan Region, who attended the previous Quiz and was one of the only four people on her table to win. (They graciously declined to accept). The "who am I" competition had the little grey cells working overtime - so many knew most of the people depicted on the photos, but in many cases could not think of the names. (Like the many senior's moments a lot of us suffer from regularly!). Hopefully, there will be another Quiz in the first part of 2010.

The DACWA Christmas cards will this year feature winning entries from the children's drawing competition, held over a few weeks prior to the AGM and judged on that day. The two winners, 5 year old Kate Colley and 10 year old Melanie Doeglas, one of each of the age groups, received a voucher and the others a certificate of participation. See page 16 for Competition Entries. Something a little different and hopefully, will be repeated in future years.

Something else a bit different..... the 5th of November saw the start of the dance/movement classes for the elderly, with an encouraging attendance. Under the guidance of a qualified Dutch speaking instructor, classes are to be held fortnightly on Thursday in the Neerlandia Clubhouses on the non pensioners week and the exercises are accompanied by music. Part of the exercises are done sitting in a chair, making it accessible to less mobile persons. The class starts at 1.30 pm and last for an hour. The costs are \$3.00 per person inclusive a cup of coffee or tea. For insurance reasons you must be a member of DACWA. For more information, call the office on 9382 4186. Another indication of DACWA trying to provide entertaining and diverse functions.

Two of our Board members, together with Karin Eastwood (Manager) and Regine Rohmann (CACP Coordinator) recently visited NAASA, Netherlands Australian Aged Services Association Inc - Dutch Aged Care, in Adelaide.

The purpose of this visit was to establish and develop a working relationship with DACWA's South Australian counterpart. The visit proved to be worthwhile as extensive discussions and change of ideas have lead to new and broader visions for DACWA to enhance and improve (future) services for its clients. A full report of the visit is available for your perusal at the DACWA office.

John Keemink

Profile HENRY KOLDENHOVEN

I was born in Amsterdam, in Dec., 1940, during the earlier part of WW11. I do not remember a lot from that period, other than going to the Spiegel School, in the Spiegel Straat, playing in Vondel Park, going to the city shops and visiting our relatives on most week-ends. Both my parents came from large families.

Life was difficult for most people after the war. Both my parents were involved in the hospitality industry and managed various hotels, clubs and restaurants and could be away for extended periods during the season. My younger brother and I would visit them on most week-ends at the various locations.

During the early 1950's my parents decided to emigrate to Australia. We arrived in Fremantle on the "luxury" liner Fairsea on Oct., 2nd, 1952. The journey took a month of extreme conditions, from very cold and rough in the North Atlantic, to very hot and humid via Aden and the Suez Canal to the Red Sea and the Equator. As kids we ran around all day, in and out of the swimming pool on the main deck, but for the adults it was not a happy experience.

The accommodation, the food and the attitude of the Italian crew left a lot to be desired.

The arrival at Holden Camp, in Northam, was another culture shock. Nissen huts, a huge mix of different people and languages and food that tasted as bad as it looked!! However, as good mothers do, they coped the best they could. My Father obtained work very soon in a country town - Katanning -, approx. 300 km's south-east of Perth and we moved there in Jan. 1953.

My Father was employed as a barman in the Federal Hotel, one of three in the town with a then population of 5200. The main criteria of his job was - "pull a good beer and give the correct change"!! Katanning was a good town; I enjoyed my early years at Primary and then High School, but I hated

playing cricket, not being much good with the bat or the ball. I used to spend a lot of time in the outfield waiting for something to happen and when it did, I was seldom ready!!

I did excel in the School Swimming Championships on more than one occasion, which eventually led to water polo, a sport I enjoyed for many years at senior and State level. Katanning district as a whole provided many sporting opportunities and the cooler winter months were usually taken up with hockey, again a



sport maintained to my late teens.

After leaving school in 1957, I commenced my working career with a local public accountant, starting as a trainee accountant in book-keeping for local businesses and farmers. Seeing good opportunities in this field, I enrolled with Perth Technical Correspondence School, and completed a Diploma in Accounting in 1962.

I moved to Perth in 1963 and worked as a Company Accountant for several large motor vehicle dealerships and distributors. The work was challenging and at times very demanding with all the emphasis on the bottom line and, of course, sales volume and the two didn't always come together. As a total change, I joined the Building Society and Banking Industry, in 1978, a time when that industry was introducing new methods of banking and providing new and innovative levels of customer service, and as a result gained significant market share.

They were exciting days and it was a pleasure to go to work with like-minded people working towards a common goal, but, of course, it didn't last. The big four banks' motto was "if you can't beat them, buy them out"!

(Continued on page 15)

The Board of Management:

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Editor: Aat Kievit

(continued from page 14)

After take-overs the first casualty is customer service, then staff redundancy and then culture changes to those that are left. In 1992 it was time for me to make another serious career change. I formed a Management and Consultancy company and thus became self-employed, specialising in finance consultancy and mortgage origination, concentrating on housing and commercial investment and development funding services. My business activities are now curtailed to looking after the affairs of several specific clients, allowing more time for other projects and community work.

My Dutch community involvement started in 1997/98 with the Willem De Vlamingh celebrations, then the visit of the Schelde Loodsen Koor. I became a DACWA committee member in 2000 and am looking forward to further challenges - caring for the elderly. In between all of the above I managed to get married and divorced and raise a daughter and a son. I continue to enjoy my work, have many friends and look forward to life and it's opportunities.

Henry

FLOWERS, or ???????

A sensitive issue, but deserves to be raised. This had been discussed a few times in the past, but somehow was never put in print.

It was prompted, again, by the relative of a DACWA client who was very appreciative of the care and attention given to her Mother. As a result, she requested mourners to give DACWA a donation, in lieu of flowers.

This is actually a common occurrence, and some of the larger charities have written to their clients requesting they consider this.

As everyone is aware, all non-profit organisations rely heavily on donations and DACWA is no exception and I am sure that no-one would be offended if we asked you to consider us when the time comes, if, of course DACWA have, in your opinion, treated your loved one the way you would expect them to.

John Keemink

HOW NOT TO BOOK A HOLIDAY.

Earlier this year my cousin from Zwolle arranged a Cruise on the Danube - Vienna to Bratislava, Budapest, etc., including flights to Vienna from the Netherlands. This was for him and his wife and for me and Judith and for a long-time friend.

He used a local travel agent and after supplying the details of our passports - full names, passport numbers, dates of birth and expiry dates (that of the passports, not ours!!), he was asked to provide Judith's maiden name. He rang to request this and after many questions over a few weeks - i.e.: WHY????, he could give no satisfactory answer. Only: "they need it".

We arrived in the Netherlands, after three days in London and a week in Scotland, late in the afternoon, and were in Zwolle early evening on Thursday, August 20th. (Without luggage, which was still in Heathrow!) We were leaving for Schiphol at 3:30 am on Saturday, 22nd, for our early flight to Vienna.

After our arrival in Zwolle, we discovered that all the tickets for Judith's flight and cruise, had been issued in her maiden name, and NOT in her correct name, as per the passport and the information given to the travel agent originally!!

A hurried trip to the travel agent the following morning to remedy this farcical situation, assuming, of course, it to be a simple matter of altering the names. NOT SO!!! After an hour of explanation we were asked to wait for a phone call, within an hour at the latest! FOUR hours later we were told to come back to their office, to be told: "NO CAN DO!!" Tickets for the cruise presented no problem, but the flight tickets had to be cancelled, and replaced with the correct details, at an additional cost of 500 Euros!!!! That, or stay in Zwolle, or get to Vienna another way!!

We were told that, in the Netherlands and the rest of Europe, all married women had both married AND

maiden names on their passports and for all travel out of the country of residence, maiden names HAD to be used!! Completely different to Australia and, I am certain, also the USA, Great Britain, Canada, and probably lots of other countries.

The agency accepted the details given by my cousin, without seeing the passport, or Judith herself, but would not accept that she was who she said and regardless of the overwhelming proof, Judith's actual presence and the passport, common sense did NOT prevail!! No apologies, no offer of any compensation, no hint of responsibility. Just PAY, or don't go!!

By then we had only a few hours to closing time and with a 3:30 am departure the next day, we had no choice. AND, our luggage had not yet arrived, so we were looking at travel to Vienna in the clothes we were wearing and the possibility of having to buy a whole new wardrobe there before the start of the cruise. Fortunately, the luggage arrived at 6pm. It was NOT a good day!!

I have sent a letter to the travel agency head office, with copies to the Zwolle newspaper, the West Australian, the Dutch and Australian Embassies and several other organisations we felt there may have been an interest. This was done in late September and, at time of writing (9th. November), NO-ONE has had the courtesy to acknowledge my letter.

SO; if one is going to have a relative or friend book any holiday from the Netherlands, BE CAREFUL!!!

The cruise, by the way, was excellent; thoroughly recommended!! BUT, ensure the guides used for the excursions on land, speak English!!! On all occasions, we had only German speaking guides, the only downside.

John Keemink

EXPLANATION OF LIFE.

On the first day God created the dog. God said: "Sit all day by the door of your house and bark at anyone who comes in or walks past and I will give you a life-span of twenty years".

The dog replied: "That's too long to be barking. Give me ten years and I'll give you back the other ten". God agreed.

On the second day God created the monkey and said: "Entertain people, do monkey tricks, make them laugh and I'll give you a twenty-five year life-span".

The monkey replied: "How boring - monkey tricks for twenty-five years?? No, thanks! Dog gave you back ten, so I'll do the same. God agreed.

On the third day He created the cow, and said: "You must go to the field with the farmer all day long and suffer under the sun, have calves and give milk to support the farmer and I'll give you a life-span of sixty years".

The cow replied: "That's a kind of tough life if you want me to live for sixty years! Give me twenty and I'll give you back the other forty" God agreed again.

On the fourth day God created man. He said: "Eat, sleep, play, marry and enjoy life. I'll give you twenty years".

Man said: "What? Only twenty years?? Tell you what. I'll take my twenty, and the forty the cow gave back, and the twenty the monkey gave back and the ten the dog returned to you. That makes eighty, right?? Okay??" "Okay", said God, you've got a deal".

So, that is why in the first twenty years we eat, sleep, play and enjoy life. For the next forty years we slave in the sun to support our family; then for the next ten years we do monkey tricks to entertain the grandchildren and then, for the last ten years we sit on the porch and bark at everyone!!!!

AND THAT IS A FULL EXPLANATION OF LIFE!!!!

MONKEY BUSINESS.

Once, not too long ago, in a village in India, a man announced to the villagers that he would buy monkeys, at \$10 each. There were thousands around, so the villagers collected many and received the promised \$10 for each one. But, of course, monkeys don't multiply that fast and as the supply diminished, the villagers lost interest. The man then announced that he would pay \$20 for each one and that caused a renewal of interest, so the villagers started catching monkeys again. Soon the supply diminished even further and once again the villagers lost their enthusiasm. The man then increased the offer again, this time to \$25, but there was hardly a monkey in sight and the man then increased his offer to \$50, but, as he had to go into the city on business, he left his assistant in charge, who would act as the buyer in the man's absence.

The assistant then told the villagers: "look at all these monkeys in this huge cage that he has paid you to catch! I will sell them to you at \$35 each and when the man returns, you can sell them back to him at \$50 and make a nice profit!! An offer too good to miss, of course, so the villagers pooled all their money and bought all the monkeys.

BUT, did the man return? NO!! And his assistant - where did he go?? Disappeared.

The forest did revert to normal, however, with thousands of monkeys running around everywhere!!

The moral of this little tale probably is - "if it looks too good to be true, leave it alone."

THE MAGIC of COMPOUND INTEREST !!!

A single deposit of \$1000, would return: \$7389, at 5% pa, in 40 years, if left to compound, \$8752, at 7.5% pa, in 30 years, \$6728, at 10% pa, in 20 years, \$17,451 in 30 years, and a handsome \$45, 264 in 40 years.

Imagine the figures should a young person deposit, say, \$10,000 a few times during his or her 20's !!There is your Super Fund, in a few easy transactions!!!

Just a little trivia, and statistics, to finish off for this year: At a speed of 90 kilometres per hour, it would take 510,000 centuries to reach our closest star!! There are 150 billion stars in the Milky Way and the Milky Way is only one galaxy among an estimated 50 billion other !! (Makes the chances of being the only place where life exists pretty remote!!).

The Universe is three times older than galaxies in the Cosmosur Sun. Therefore the light from some of the stars we see shining in the night sky first began it's journey before our Solar System existed.

Don't think too deeply about these staggering figures - you'd go around the twist!!!

CHRISTMAS CARD DRAWING COMPETITION ENTRIES

NAME	AGE	
Kate Colley	5	winner youngest class
Melanie Doeglas	10	winner oldest class
Isabel Colley	10	
Jasmine Millea	9	
Reid Bevan	10	
Bean Bevan	8	
Lauren Rumph	9	
Gabby Horlin	7	



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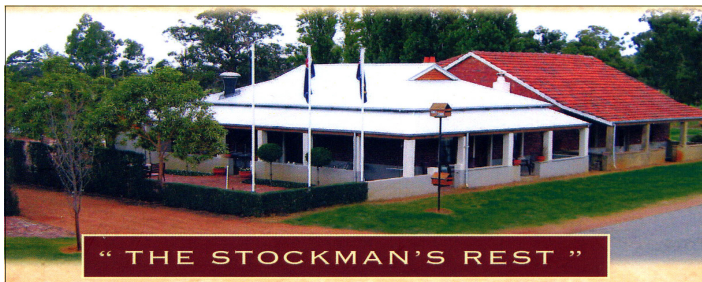
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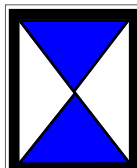
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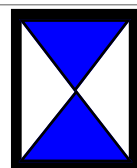
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Christmas Wishes



We wish all our members and their families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, from the Committee of the Dutch Society Neerlandia.

De medewerkers van de Dutch Community Radio wensen al hun sponsors, donateurs en andere trouwe luisteraars, Prettige Feestdagen en een Gezond en Gelukkig 2010 toe.

To all members & friends, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from the Board & Office Staff of Dutch Aged Care.

Het bestuur van De Jeugd Van Vroeger wenst alle vrienden en kennissen een Zalig Kerstfeest en een Voorspoedig 2010.

To all members and friends, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from the Committee of the Wednesday Card Club.

Het Committee Members of the Klaverjasclub Neerlandia wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and a Healthy & Prosperous New Year.

Het bestuur van de Hollandia Biljard Club wenst alle leden en vrienden Prettige Kerstdagen en een Gelukkig Nieuwjaar.

Nel Stapelbroek wenst alle leden van Neerlandia en bekenden een fijne Kerst en een Gezond & Gelukkig Nieuwjaar.

Thea de Koning wenst al haar vrienden en kennissen Prettige Kerstdagen en het allerbeste voor het Nieuwe Jaar 2010.

Joke & Piet Leeftang wensen al hun vrienden en kennissen en al de leden van Neerlandia Prettige Kerstdagen en een Gezond en Voorspoedig Nieuwjaar.

Bram Buying wenst alle vrienden en kennissen een Zalig Kerstfeest en een Voorspoedig 2010.

Karel & Ria Nissen wensen al hun vrienden en kennissen Prettige Kerstdagen en het allerbeste voor het Nieuwe Jaar 2010.

Jenny & Aat Kievit wensen al hun vrienden en bekenden Prettige Feestdagen en een Gezond en Voorspoedig Nieuwjaar.

Nel & Charlie Bakker wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and a Healthy & Prosperous New Year.

Ray & Riki Schaafsma wensen alle vrienden en bekenden Prettige Kerstdagen en een Voorspoedig Nieuw Jaar.

Bill & Henny van Heumen wensen al hun vrienden en kennissen Prettige Kerstdagen en het allerbeste voor het Nieuwe Jaar 2010.

Lies & Giel Baggen wensen hun familie en kennissen Prettige Kerstdagen en een heel Voorspoedig en Gezond Nieuwjaar.

Fie Bunning wenst alle vrienden en bekenden Prettige Kerstdagen en een Voorspoedig Nieuwjaar.

An van Kleef wenst alle vrienden en bekenden Prettige Kerstdagen en een Voorspoedig Nieuwjaar.

Ben & Freda Hovingh wensen hun familie en kennissen Prettige Kerstdagen en een heel Voorspoedig en Gezond Nieuwjaar.

Greet & Piet Noordeman wensen hun familie en kennissen Prettige Kerstdagen en een Gelukkig Nieuwjaar.

Janny & Alex Udinga wenst alle leden van Neerlandia en bekenden een fijne Kerst en een Gezond & Gelukkig Nieuwjaar.

Henk & Gerda Arts wensen al hun vrienden en kennissen Prettige Kerstdagen en het allerbeste voor het Nieuwe Jaar 2010.

Louis Marcus wenst alle leden van Neerlandia en bekenden een fijne Kerst en een Gezond & gelukkig Nieuwjaar.

Christmas Wishes

Dora van der List wenst alle leden van Neerlandia en bekenden een fijne Kerst en een Gezond & Gelukkig Nieuwjaar.

To all my friends, a Merry Christmas and a great New Year from Ans van Alphen.

Tini Swart & Rinus van den Ende wensen al hun vrienden en kennissen Prettige Kerstdagen en het allerbeste voor het Nieuwe Jaar 2010.

Thijs & Thea Gorter wensen alle vrienden en bekenden Prettige Kerstdagen en een Voorspoedig Nieuwjaar.

Marijke Mulder & Thea Young wensen al hun vrienden en kennissen Prettige Kerstdagen en het allerbeste voor het Nieuwe Jaar 2010.

Tonda Pauw wenst alle vrienden en bekenden Prettige Kerstdagen en een Voorspoedig Nieuwjaar.

Herry van der Sluis & Ann Hotz wensen alle leden van Neerlandia en bekenden een fijne Kerst en een Gezond & Gelukkig Nieuwjaar.

Martin & Sytske Staats wensen hun familie en kennissen Prettige Kerstdagen en een heel Voorspoedig en Gezond Nieuwjaar.

Ton Horsten Sr wenst zijn familie en kennissen Prettige Kerstdagen en een Gelukkig Nieuwjaar.

Rieta & Henk Heyman wensen alle leden van Neerlandia en bekenden een fijne Kerst en een Gezond & Gelukkig Nieuwjaar.

Irma van der Kwast wenst alle vrienden en kennissen een Zalig Kerstfeest en een Voorspoedig 2010.

Thea Bloks wenst alle leden van Neerlandia en bekenden een fijne Kerst en een Gezond & Gelukkig Nieuwjaar.

**Vrolijk
Kerstfeest**

Here's a little poem just for you.



Another year has passed and we're all a little older. Last summer felt hotter and winter seems much colder.

There was a time not long ago when life was quite a blast. Now I fully understand about 'Living in the Past'.



We used to go to weddings, football games and lunches. Now we go to funeral homes and after-funeral brunches.

We used to have hangovers, from parties that were gay. Now we suffer body aches and wile the night away.



We used to go out dining and couldn't get our fill. Now we ask for doggie bags, come home and take a pill.

We used to often travel to places near and far. Now we get sore asses from riding in the car.



We used to go to nightclubs and drink a little booze. Now we stay home at night and watch the evening news.

That, my friend is how life is and now my tale is told.

So, enjoy each day and live it up...

**before you're
too darned
old!**



Origin of the landscape

The origin of the Biesbosch as a watery area can be traced back to the St. Elisabeth's Flood of 1421. This flood disaster engulfed 16 villages. The agricultural area of the Groote Waard or Zuidhollandse Waard changed overnight into an inland sea that stretched all the way from Dordrecht in the northwest to Geertruidenberg in the southeast. Since then, the tides have been able to enter from the sea without any obstruction so banks and pools have developed.



Biesbosch Land and Water

The Maas and Rhine rivers carried an enormous amount of sand and silt from upstream. Their sediments were deposited at the turn of the tide in the areas where the tidewater met and mixed with the river water. On the emerging sandbanks the first vegetation appeared: rushes followed by reed. It made the area interesting for the reed and rush culture. The abundance of rushes gave this new area its name of 'Biesbosch' which means 'Rush-woods'. As the land rose, reed disappeared and willows began to grow. For the withy-beds, willows were planted on a large scale. Other means of making a living became possible like duck hunting with duck decoys, the manufacturing of willow-hoops for wooden barrels, agriculture and fishing.

Around the year 1550, the first land reclamations took place. Around 1850, two thirds of the shallow inland sea that was created in 1421 had been reclaimed and was used for

agriculture. Shortly afterwards, from 1850 to 1870 the Nieuwe Merwede canal was dug to protect the Alblasserwaard polders from flooding. This divided the Biesbosch into two parts. From 1925 to 1927, the Biesbosch Polder was developed and made suitable for agriculture.

After World War II, houses and factories were built in the western part of the Sliedrechtse Biesbosch. A large part of the Brabantse Biesbosch was made suitable for agriculture and for the supply of drinking water. After 1950 the Biesbosch was discovered as a recreational area. After the flood disaster of 1953 it was decided to close most of the sea arms in the province of Zeeland (the Delta Works Project). In 1969 the Volkerak sea arm was closed off followed by the Haringvliet in 1970. The tidal movement of 2 metres was reduced significantly by the closing of the Haringvliet Dam. Today, in large areas of The Biesbosch National Park shallow lagoons are developing.

The Biesbosch today

The Biesbosch National Park is a green maze of several rivers, islands and a vast network of narrow and wide creeks. The area is one of the largest, valuable natural areas in the Netherlands. What's more, it is one of the few remaining fresh water tidal areas in Europe. The Nieuwe Merwede canal divides the National Park equally between the provinces of Noord-Brabant and Zuid-Holland. The part in Noord-Brabant is called the Brabantse Biesbosch.

The part in Zuid-Holland is divided into the Sliedrechtse Biesbosch and the Dordtse Biesbosch. The National Park covers an area of approximately 9,000 hectares. The vegetation mainly consists of willow woods that developed out of the willow-shoots of former withy-beds due to decades of neglect. These marshy woods alternate with grasslands and reed-lands that have run wild with weeds.

The plants and animals which existed before 1970 were all typical of a dynamic fresh-water tidal environment. The tidal influence of about two metres was reduced significantly in 1970 after closing the open sea connection of the Haringvliet. Of course this had its effects on the flora and fauna. Certain plants and animals disappeared while others took their place. It was a drastic development that forced nature to adapt. The environmental change in 1970, started a transitional period towards a new natural balance. This transition continues to this day. A new natural balance is not established in just a few decades. In certain areas of the Biesbosch, nature is managed by as little human interference as possible. In the long term, these areas will probably develop into marshy woodlands, which is the type of woods that used to cover the wet peat areas in the western part of the Netherlands in the past.

The Biesbosch has always been an important area for birds to rest, forage and breed. This watery area is of such International importance to waterfowl and waders that a large area, the Brabantse Biesbosch has been officially recognised as a 'Wetland'. This high natural value is confirmed by other European agreements like the Habitats Directive and the Birds Directive.



Biesbosch near Dordrecht

Cultural history:

The area knew many traditional forms of land use, like withy-beds and reed-lands, agriculture, hunting and fishing. Remnants of those days are still there, like the so called 'salmon hut', huts of willow workers and farm workers, duck decoys and the quays and grass dikes with their characteristic pools. Boundary marker trees of former terrain boundaries are also still to be seen in various places.

Reintroduction of the beaver:



In 1825 the last beaver in the Netherlands was clubbed to death near the river IJssel.

In 1988, 5 beaver couples from the Elbe basin in Germany were released in the Biesbosch as an experiment after several extensive studies. They had small radio transmitters implanted that allowed following them closely for 5 years.

The reintroduction is a success. By the end of 1993 there were already 42 beavers of which 25 were born in the Biesbosch. Ten years later there are more than 60 beaver lodges in the area.

Beavers are vegetarians that have a preference for tree-bark of branches and twigs. To get to it they are prepared to cut down entire trees. That is precisely why they fulfill such a useful role in nature management in the Biesbosch. By cutting down a tree every now and then, space is created for something else to grow. They also like to eat the stinging-nettles that thrive in the willow woods of the neglected withy-beds. The beaver has some 50 to 60 plants on its menu.

Types of landscape with their flora and fauna:

The most characteristic plants that occur in the Biesbosch grow in a moist to wet environment. The triangular club-rush is very special for this area (*Scirpus triquetus*) and a special variety of the marsh marigold (*Caltha palustris* var. *araneosa*), which is larger than the marsh marigold, can be found nowhere else in the world. The Biesbosch marsh marigold is called the 'spider-marigold' because it forms spider-like root outgrowths at its nodules after it has flowered. This highly specialized form of vegetative reproduction is a way of adapting to the tidal environment.

Since the closing of the Haringvliet dam in 1970 the mammals have increased too, like the roe deer and the last years the fox. The rare root vole is present in the Biesbosch, just as the water shrew. Both species of mice live in wetlands and their populations seem to be stable nowadays. The increase in small mammals also brought an increase in birds of prey. In the area we also find waterfowl, reed warblers and meadow birds. In good years some 15 to 20 pairs of kingfishers and 1,500 to 2,000 pairs of blue throats are breeding.



A fox relieves his thirst



Spoonbill

Because of the nature development of new wetlands the great white heron and the little egret have become familiar elements in the fauna of the Biesbosch today. Here and there the bittern also breeds. The lush vegetation brings about a rich world of insects, with for example beetles, dragonflies, grasshoppers and many butterflies and moths. For instance, over 300 species of moths were found. The swollen spire snail is present in the Sliedrechtse Biesbosch due to the relatively large tidal movement there. The former abundance of fish species has disappeared. The Delta Works and especially the

Haringvliet sluices form a barrier for typical migratory river fishes like salmon, sea trout and European smelt. The total number of fish has increased in recent years and the river bream does extremely well.

Status of The Biesbosch National Park:

In 1987 the proposition of the Biesbosch as a national park was put forward. As a result of this, a consultative body was installed in which all those directly involved, such as owners, managers and administrators, are represented. The main task of this consultative body was to make a National Park Management Plan with sufficient guarantees for sustainable management and conservation of the Biesbosch, to meet the requirements for National Parks.

In 1993 agreement was reached on the plan and on 10 March 1994 the Biesbosch was assigned the official status of a National Park.

You may say that an area that has the status of National Park, has a natural value and is worthwhile visiting.

Compiled by Lou Dingjan with information from the internet

NEERLANDIA COMPUTER LESSONS

Is there a need to improve your basic Computer skills or brush up on specific areas such as sending E-mails, writing letters, sending photo's, keeping simple accounts or do you have general computer problems?

Contact Ad Liebrechts direct on:
9279 7383.

He will give free advise or invite you to participate in a few lessons in our



Clubhouse or find other solutions for your problems.
This service is free for our Members, but we do charge for a cup of Coffee

Dutchees

Cafe

& KASTEELS QUALITY
DUTCH SNACKS

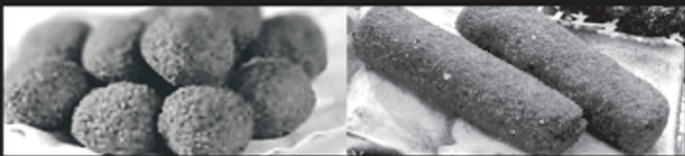
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December Birthdays

The following Members will celebrate their birthday during the month of December.
We wish them all a very **Happy Birthday !!!**



Pieter Leeftang
Anthonina Butler
Ellen Schumacher
Wilhelmina Hogen-Esch
John Maarssen
Ray Schaafsma
Henry Koldenhoven
Mies Devilee
Henk Piller
Ludwig Reitzenstein
Louise Goodheart
Paul Creemers
Henk de Jong
Janke Raayen
Brigitta Weel
Henny van Heumen
Thea Bloks
Siena Tomkins
Hans Zomer
Gwen Reynolds
Wilma Mitchell
Thea Gorter
Evaline Timmermans
Marinus van den Ende
Mieke van den Velde
Herman Lamers
Lenie Wisse



If your birthday is not mentioned in this list at all, this means that we have the incorrect details entered in our membership database.



Or you may wish that your birthday is not mentioned at all.

To make changes, you need to contact our **Membership Administrator, Margaret Baltes** on: 9305 2434



Results Sunday Klaverjas Drive:

On Sunday the 1st of November we held the last one of our 2009 Sunday Klaverjas Drive.

The event was held in the Clubhouse Lounge and we had 7 playing tables altogether and it was nice and cozy.



The scores made were not all that high and there was a formidable gap between the 1st prize winner and the other two place getters. The remarkable thing was that the third place was shared by two people who finished exactly with the same overall score. The end results were:

Klaverjassen:

1st Prize:	Henk Arts	6897 points
2nd prize:	John vand der Wielen	6575 points
3rd Prize:	Louis Marcus	6520 points
3rd Prize	Peter Seegers	6520 points

As this was the last of the Klaverjas Drives for 2009 we wish all the participating Klaverjassers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and we hope to see you all again at the next drive, which will be held on the 7th of February 2010.

Pieter Leeftang

IN LOVING MEMORY

Passed away on the 5th of November

Bill van der Plas

Our sincere condolences to his family from the Wednesday Card Club and the Dutch Society Neerlandia of WA.

May he Rest in Peace.



The following Members will celebrate their birthday during **the month of January**. We wish them all a very **Happy Birthday !!!**

Joan Creemers
Alex Udinga
Lies Baggen
Irma van der Kwast
Theo van Pelt
Joanne Viersma
Miep de Blank
Breur Bruining
Dammes Smith
Fred Nieuwhof
Ann Voorn
Gerry James
Nel Bouwman
Peter Bouwman
Margriet Agterhuis
Tom van Doorn
Tillie Stulbauer
Gerry Becker
Tonda Pouw
Corry van Ryt
Miep Boekelman
Carolien Boynton
Jenni Berg
Barry Parker
Thea Young
Martin Staats
Henk de Jong
Aagje Boekelaar
Paula Wessels
Ben Hovingh
Hanny Kamps
Riet Heyman
Murray Koedijk
Jannie Kuper
Joanna Stoffels
Willem van der Heiden
Lenie Wolfs
Martin Lamers
Fridy van der Ouderaa
Frank Indrisie
Josta von Hombracht
Frances Costantino
Jan Kalkhoven

If your birthday is not mentioned in this list at all, this means that we have the incorrect details entered in our membership database.

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Margaret Baltes on: 9305 2434



Christmas message for 2009

Christmas message for 2009.

Each individual is capable of both great compassion and great indifference. We have it within our means to nourish the former and outgrow the latter. This observation was written by Norman Cousins (1915-1990), a prominent journalist and world peace advocate. His life story is remarkable as at one stage in his life, he survived a deadly disease whereby the connective tissue of his spine was deteriorating. His chance of survival was estimated as 1 in 500 according to his doctor. Faced with the real prospect of his impending death, he did three things contrary to medical opinion.

First he began to research the various drugs he was on. He discovered that his body was depleted of vitamin C, convinced his doctors, who then injected him with this supplement. Secondly he checked himself out of hospital and into a hotel room, reasoning that hospitals with their at times lacking hygiene practices, a culture of over-medication and routines of disrupting basic sleep patterns, all contributed to his own idea that a hospital is no place for an ill person.



The third thing Cousins did was to buy a TV screen and player plus a good supply of funny films like those of the Marx Brothers. On the first night in his hotel room he found that he

laughed so much that he was able to stimulate chemicals in his body that allowed him several hours of pain-free sleep. When the pain returned, he would simply turn on his player and his laughter would then re-induce his sleep. Within a few weeks he was back at his desk and at work again. Although he still had some physical disabilities, his body continued to recover as he continued with his self directed wellness program. This positive and optimistic attitude may well have saved his life, as against a negative thought that being in hospital with heavy medication might have ended his life with in suffering.

So could Cousins recovery be considered a mechanism of the placebo effect ? It is now well-known that creativity is the central trigger of the placebo effect as it sets up a chain of events in the body's system that eventually restores homeostasis (the state of balance in the body) and feelings of wellness. A great part of success with this approach is the full cooperation of a sympathetic medical staff, family and friends.

There is still a lot of callous cruelty, but also a great amount of compassion in the world we are living in. To illustrate will give you an example of these two great opposites and you will be emotionally affected by these

true stories coming out of WW II, now 65 years behind us. It happened during a period of intense cold, just after January 25th 1945 in the then part of Germany, East Prussia. The capital Königsberg was under attack from the advancing Russian armies, the food rations down to 180 grams of bread a day. To the civilian population of around 200.000 and others in the Province, three choices were left, to stay and starve and face plunder, rape and murder, to cross the front line and surrender to the Russians and a frightening future or to cross the frozen Frische Haff to the harbour town of Pillau to find a place on an evacuation ship. At first, a number of ships managed to carry their desperate human cargo safely to the west of Germany. But time was running out. For a short time the Germans managed to stabilize the front line in this section, but it happened on the 14th of February 1945 that the Steamship General von Steuben with well over 2000 women and children refugees on board together with many wounded soldiers, running up to a total 5200 people on board was torpedoed and sunk in the icy Baltic waters. Some photo's of this event survived, one was of a woman with her two little children, climbing a wobbly staircase alongside the ships side. She carried a small package in one hand and holding the hand of one of her two children, who in turn were holding hands together. Her haggard face showed the hardships she had already suffered on her 20 km journey over frozen land and water as well as facing an uncertain future. Only 659 people survived after the ship was sunk by two torpedoes fired of by a Russian submarine, commandeered by captain Marinesko. He died in 1963 from painful stomach ulcers, caused by heavy drinking over a long period. I just wonder if this lonely woman with both her precious children would have made it to safety.

This is the story of a Flying Fortress named "Ye Olde Pub" under command of an American named Charlie



Brown and a Luftwaffe Messerschmitt, piloted by the German Franz Stigler. Charlie Brown's B-17 Flying Fortress was in a terrible state, having been hit by flak and fighters and flying deeper into enemy country instead of heading home towards England. The nose of his ship had been shot away, one of the four engines had been hit and cut out, compass and other instruments were not

(Continued on page 25)

Christmas message for 2009

(Continued from page 24)

working anymore, one horizontal stabilizer was shot away, the aircraft's body covered with bullet holes, the tail gunner dead and the remainder of the crew dead or heavily wounded. German pilot Franz Stigler was ordered to shoot the Fortress down. When he got near the B17 he could not believe his eyes as he had never seen such severe damage done to a plane. Despite having ammunition, he flew to the side of the Fortress and looked at the pilot, who was struggling to keep his bloodstained and wounded aircraft in the air. Aware that he had no idea in which direction he was flying, Franz indicated to turn 180 degrees and guided the stricken plane to the North Sea and so back to England. Back to base Franz reported that he had shot down the B-17 over the North Sea. Charlie reported what had happened and it was decided to keep this occurrence a deep secret to protect the German pilot. More than 40 years later, Charlie Brown and Franz Stigler came together again in the USA, after Charlie had managed to locate his wartime savior and sponsored him to celebrate their survival. When asked why he did not shoot them down, Franz said: 'I did not have the heart to finish them off. They were trying so desperately to get their dead and wounded home in their disabled craft'.

Finally I want to share with you the beautiful story of 'The Doll and a white Rose', written by someone with no name given.

—"I hurried into the local department store to buy some last minute Christmas presents. Out of the corner of my eye I saw a little boy, about five, holding a lovely doll. He kept touching her hair and he held her so gently. I could not seem to help myself, I just kept looking over at the little boy and wondered who the doll was for. I watched him turn to a woman he called his aunt and said, 'Are you sure I don't have enough money? She replied a bit impatiently, 'You know that you don't have enough money for it'. The aunt told the little boy not to go anywhere, that she had to get some other things and would be back in a few minutes. And then she left the aisle.

The boy continued to hold the doll. After a bit I asked the boy who the doll was for. He said, 'It is the doll my sister wanted so badly for Christmas. She just knew Santa would bring it'. I said that maybe Santa was going to bring it. But he said, 'No, Santa can't go where my sister is I have to give the doll to my Mama to take to her'. I then asked him where his sister was. He looked at me with the saddest eyes and said, 'She has gone to be with Jesus. My Daddy says that Mama is having to go also to be with her'. My heart nearly stopped beating. Then the boy looked at me again and said, 'I told my Daddy to tell Mama not to go yet. I told him to tell her to wait till I got back from the store'. Then he asked me to see his picture. I told him I would love to. He pulled out some pictures he had taken from the front of the store. He said, 'I want my Mama to take these with her so she don't ever forget me'.

I saw that the little boy had lowered his head and had grown so very quiet. While he was not looking, I reached into my purse and pulled out some bills. I then asked the little boy, 'Shall we count that money one more timer. He grew excited and said, 'Yes, I know it has to be enough'. So I slipped my money in with his and we began to count it. Of course it was plenty for the doll. He softly said, 'Thank you Jesus for giving me enough money'. Then the boy said, 'I just asked Jesus to give me enough money to buy this doll, so Mama can take it with her, to give to my sister. And he heard my prayer. I hoped for enough money

to buy my Mama a white rose, I didn't ask Him, but He gave me enough to buy the doll and a rose for my Mama. She loves white roses so very, very much'.

In a few minutes the aunt came back and I wheeled my cart away. I could not keep from thinking about the little boy as



I finished my shopping in a total different spirit than when I had started. And I kept remembering a story I had seen in the newspaper several days earlier about a drunk driver hitting a car and killing a little girl, leaving the mother in a serious condition. The family was deciding on whether to remove the life support. Now surely this little boy did not belong with that story. Two days later I read in the paper where the family had disconnected the life support and the young woman had died. I could not forget the little boy and just kept wondering if the two were somehow connected

.Later that day I could not help myself and I went out buying some white roses and took them to the funeral home where the young woman was. And there she was, holding a lovely white rose, the beautiful doll and the picture of the little boy in the store. I left there in tears, my life changed forever. The love that little boys had for his little sister and his mother was overwhelming. And in a split second a drunk driver had ripped the life of that little boy to pieces.

This my friends is my Christmas message for this year again. By these stories I have tried to show you the good and the positive in our human race but also the ugly side of some part.

To all I wish you happiness and health during these seasons celebrations.

Belief that your life is living and your beliefs will create the fact. The key to happiness is having dreams, the key to success is making dreams come true.

Gerard Woerlee.


Vrolijk
Kerstfeest

Challenging puzzles by the Puzzle Wizard

8	23	12	20	3	9	19		10	12	3	13	4	3	1
1		26		9		3		8		24		26		8
17	8	16	26	19	20	13	4	22		15	26	17	20	13
21		11		20		24		22		25		20		5
20	11	20	24		14	20	16	16	3	24	26	1	1	3
16		10		14		1		8		8				1
16	26	4	8	26	1		3	1	3	9	26	1	24	3
		20		16		14		6		3		25		
20	25	13	3	10	8	3	1		10	4	25	23	12	10
2				19		13		25		20		20		20
9	26	1	10	20	9	13	3	4	20		8	13	3	7
20		26		5		3		26		13		8		25
13	3	14	14	8		9	3	12	13	8	9	9	8	26
12		16		17		17		8		18		3		8
4	13	20	10	10	20	10		3	16	18	3	16	18	3

~~A~~~~B~~~~C~~~~D~~~~E~~~~F~~~~G~~~~H~~~~I~~~~J~~~~K~~~~L~~~~M~~~~N~~~~O~~~~P~~~~Q~~~~R~~~~S~~~~T~~~~U~~~~V~~~~W~~~~X~~~~Y~~~~Z~~

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
		A						C			P	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

CODEBREAKER PUZZLE



How to play the Game:

A Codebreaker is a crossword puzzle with no clues! Every letter of the alphabet has been replaced by a number, the same number represents the same letter all the time in this puzzle.

All you have to do is find out which letter is represented by which number!

The codes for two letters are given. When you have entered these letters throughout the puzzle, you should have enough information to start guessing your first word and also discover other letters. If you are unsure, use a pencil, then you can always erase.

In last month's Codebreaker, once the word "Tattoo" was found, the rest was not too difficult. Here is the solution:
A=8; B=16; C=24; D=2; E=17;
F=13; G=22; H=7; I=23; J=6;
K=19; L=1; M=15; N=12; O=21;
P=11; Q=20; R=14; S=3; T=6;
U=26; V=25; W=9; X=10; Y=18;
Z=5.

Sudoku

The aim of the Sudoku Puzzle is to insert numbers in the boxes to satisfy only one condition: each row, each column and each 3x3 box must contain one each of the digits 1 through 9.

Sudoku - Easy

	1					9	3	7
9	3				8	6		2
		7						
	5	8	1	2	4			
	7						1	
			8	6	7	5	2	
						8		
7		3	6				5	4
1	6	2					7	



Sudoku - Moderate

2	9							
				8	9		3	
	6	4	7	1				
	8				3	1		7
4								9
5		9	8				6	
				9	1	6	2	
	2		4	6				
							1	3

Club Information & Links to Dutch Organisations

NEERLANDIA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

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Vice President Mr. Ray Schaafsma 9455 4835
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Treasurer Mr. Karel Nissen 9402 3953

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

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Mr. Louis Marcus 9275 8666
Mr. Bram Buying 9271 9321
Mr. Ad Liebregts 9279 7383
Mr. Tony Horsten 9279 5785
Ms. Beppie van Maanenbergh 0433 518 066
Mrs. Margaret Baltes 93052434

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Telephone: (08) 9381 3738
Fax: (08) 9388 0848
E-mail: neerlandia@iinet.net.au
Website: http://www.dutchcommunity.iinet.net.au

All Correspondence to:

The Secretary, Dutch Society Neerlandia Inc,
PO BOX 200 Wembley WA 6913

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Pieter Leeftang 9364 6703

MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTORS:

Gerard Woerlee, Lou Dingjan

CONSULATE OF THE NETHERLANDS IN WA

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Tel: (08) 9486 1579
Website: www.mfa.nl/can
E-mail: perth.consulate@netherlands.org.au
Opening hours: Mon, Tue, Thu & Fri from 10 am—12 noon
Applications accepted by appointment only.

DUTCH COMMUNITY RADIO IN WA 6EBA 95.3 FM

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E-mail: dutchradio@bigpond.com
Website: www.dutchradioperth.com
Uitzending: elke Zondag 14 – 15.30 uur

LINKS TO OTHER DUTCH ORGANISATIONS:

SBS NATIONAL RADIO 96.9 FM

Uitzending: Wed & Sat 10.00 am, Mon 12 noon -1.00 pm

DUTCH AGED CARE OF WA INC

9382 4186
or: 9382 1983
E-mail: dutchagedcare@iinet.net.au
Website address: www.dacwa.org
Kantoor:
230 Cambridge St WEMBLEY WA 6014
PO Box 1154, W. Leederville. WA 6901
Kantoor uren: Maandag - Vrijdag 9:30 – 14:30 uur

There are many activities organised by the various organisations in the Neerlandia Clubhouse. For more information please contact the relevant spokes persons listed on this page.

Private Member's Parties.

Members, why not hold your Wedding Anniversary, your or your parents special Birthday in the Neerlandia Clubhouse. Contact Ray Schaafsma or Pieter Leeftang for availability. But **NO** 18th or 21st Birthday Parties, please.

Neerlandia ensures that the privacy of our members details are maintained and upheld at all times and not disclosed or sold to any other organisation. We are committed to protect your personal information.

ASS. NETH. SOCIETIES IN WA (ANSWA)

Information: Theo van de Peppel 0419 917 340

DE NEDERLANDSE SCHOOL IN PERTH

Information: Wilna Cornelisse: 041 718 5617
or 9245 1716
E-mail: deschakel@iinet.net.au

DE NEDERLANDSTALIGE SPEELGROEP IN COTTESLOE

Information: Marjan van Dijk 9459 8776

DUTCH Courier (Dutch Australian Monthly)

PO Box 1141 CROYDON, Victoria 3136

KLAVERJAS CLUB NEERLANDIA & BOLIVIA CLUB

Information: Bram Buying 9271 9321
Clubhuis Donderdag avond van 20.00 – 23.00

WOENSDAG KAART CLUB

Information: Els Meyer, secretary 9414 6990
Clubhuis Woensdags van 10.00–14.00 uur.

DE JEUGD VAN VROEGER (DJVV)

Information: An Hotz, Secretary 9377 2195
Donderdags om de veertien dagen 10:30–15.00 uur

SUNDAY KLAVERJAS DRIVES

Information: Bram Buying 9271 9321

THE DUTCH CLOG DANCERS

Information: Hanny Kamps, Secretary 9457 2548

THE DUTCH SINGERS

Information: Gerry Creemers 9356 4207
-: Lies Baggen 9387 6217
Dinsdag 10.00 –13.00 uur, om de 14 dagen

CARNAVALS CLUB THE SANDGROPPERS

Information: Henny Crijns, Secretary 9454 6879

THE DUTCH LUNCH CLUB

Information: Frits Herkenhof 9310 1569

NEERLANDIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Information: Arnold Giltay 9349 7901
Tweede Zondag van de maand 10.00 – 12.00 uur

THE HOLLANDIA CHOIR

Information: Johanna Padley 9457 2984

HOLLANDIA BILJART CLUB

Clubhouse: 128 Crystal Brook Rd., Wattle Grove
Information: M. van Moorsel, Caretaker 9453 3535

MANDURAH KLAVERJAS CLUB

Information: Theresa Verdonk 9537 6159
Donderdagmiddag in Mandurah vanaf 13:30 uur

FIETS CLUB THE DUTCHIES

Information: Teunis Maaskant 9444 4211
Aagje Boekelaar 9291 8781

DE HOLLANDSE FIETSEN CLUB.

Information: Frans Indrisie 9242 2139

OVER 50 WANDEL CLUB THE DUTCHIES

Information: Thea Bloks 9446 4867
Bill van Heumen 9377 4287

DE FRIESE TAAL CLUB

Information: An Hotz 9377 2195

NETHERLANDS EX-SERVICEMEN'S ASSOCIATION, WA BRANCH

Information: E. Baints 9271 1524

EX-STOOTTROEPERS CLUB

Information: Henk Raafs 9249 1547

MORLEY WINDMILLS SPORTS CLUB

Information: Karel Hofstee 9272 1109

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Full page \$ 180 including GST
Half page \$ 90 including GST
Quarter page \$ 50 including GST
Eighth page \$ 25 including GST



The views in this magazine are those expressed by the writers and not necessarily those by the Management Committee of The Dutch Society Neerlandia (WA) Inc or the editors.

Deadlines: Contributions to the Neerlandia magazine should be in the Editor's hands no later than the 15th of each month and should bear the author's name and address.

Advertisers wanting to insert or change or re-edit their advertisements are also subject to these conditions.

Anything received beyond the 15th of the month may not be considered for inclusion until the next edition. Due to printing methodology no proof reader's copy can be provided and no responsibility is taken for occasional typographical errors, omissions and minor inaccuracies.

